



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/833,673	04/13/2001	Shunpei Yamazaki	12732-029001	2129
26171	7590	09/22/2006		EXAMINER
FISH & RICHARDSON P.C. P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			OSORIO, RICARDO	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2629	

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/833,673	YAMAZAKI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	RICARDO L. OSORIO	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### **Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2006.

2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 4-13 and 46-59 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 4,7-9,12,13,46,49-51,54 and 55 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 5,6,10,11,47,48,52, 53, and 56-59 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### **Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### **Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### **Attachment(s)**

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 119/04

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 4, 7-9, 12, 13, 46, 49-51, 54, and 55 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komiya (US 2002/0105493) in view of Hiroki et al. (2001/0017683).

Regarding claims 4, 7, 9, 12, 46, 49, 51 and 54, Komiya teaches of an organic EL display device comprising a plurality of pixels each comprising a light emitting element using organic electroluminescent elements (see paragraph 54. Komiya does not precisely teach that the light emitting elements comprise the organic compound layer between an anode and a cathode. It is inherent organic electroluminescent displays to have the organic layer between an anode and a cathode.); and a source signal line driver circuit (see Fig. 2, reference character 200), wherein said source signal line driver circuit comprises a switching circuit for switching a polarity of an output signal (see paragraph 48), and a polarity of a digital video signal input to said switching circuit is inverted by means of a shift signal to be input into said switching circuit and a resultant signal is then input into said plurality of pixels (see Fig. 2 and paragraph 48. (switches 21-24 each include inverters and the polarity of the signal sources is inverted after a predetermined period, therefore, although not specifically mentioned, it is inherent to have the polarity of the digital video signal inverted by means of a shift signal because some signal, namely a switch,

shift, invert, or reverse polarity signal is inherently necessary to cause the inversion the polarity after said predetermined period).

However, regarding claims 4, 9, 46, and 51, Komiya does not specifically teach of supplying a digital signal to the pixels.

Hiroki et al. teaches of a display device in which digital signals are being supplied to the pixels (see paragraph 393, lines 12-17, paragraph 394, and claim 18, lines 9-11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to supply digital signals to the pixels, as taught by Hiroki, in the device of Komiya in order to obtain a clear digital gradated display while avoiding flicker (see paragraph 393, lines 15-17, and paragraph 394).

As to claims 8,13,50,55, although not specifically taught, it is well known to someone of ordinary skill in the art of EL displays for a telephone, camera, or head up display, or a PC to have be a light emitting display.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 5-6,10-11,47-48,52-53, and 56-59 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 4, 9, 46, and 51 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ricardo L. Osorio whose telephone number is 571-272-7676. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala whose telephone number is 571-272-7681.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

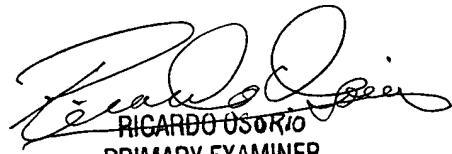
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to: 571-273-8300 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window at the Randolph Building, 401, Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



RICARDO OSORIO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Ricardo L. Osorio  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 2629

RLO  
September 17, 2006